

Thursday, June 21, 2001

## Pre-launch activity hums at CCAFS for MAP, GOES-M



## KSC Bond Drive to end June 22

▲ **ELV Update:** MAP was moved to Launch Complex 17-B, CCAFS, yesterday. After functional tests are performed, the payload fairing is expected to be installed on June 26. Launch is targeted for June 30. GOES-M has completed processing. Encapsulation in the payload fairing is scheduled for July 2; launch will be aboard an Atlas IIA vehicle for July 15. The **HESSI launch** has been postponed.

▲ **Savings Bond Drive Final Two Days** -- The Kennedy Space Center Savings Bonds Drive for 2001 is entering its final two days. Friday, June 22 is the last opportunity to participate in this year's annual drive. This is the first year that the inflation-protected I-bonds are being offered to federal employees through payroll deduction. Like EE-bonds, I-bonds have an additional tax advantage when used as a college savings program. The traditional EE-bonds also remain available. For Savings Bonds information and enrollment forms, contact your bonds canvasser. Need to know who your canvasser is? Contact Claudette Beggs at 867-7009.

◆ **Science by NASA:** African dust has produced striking sunsets in south Florida for years. But it seems there is more to the dust clouds, which cross the Atlantic during north Africa's annual dry season, than meets the eye. NASA-funded researchers say motes of dust carry stow-away bacteria and fungi that could pose a health risk to people who inhale them. Florida receives more than 50 percent of all microbe-laden African dust that reaches the United States. Microbes that survive the trans-Atlantic journey are bound to be a mixture of harmless microorganisms and potentially troublesome ones. Further study is

indicated. For more details, read the full article on the Web at [http://science.nasa.gov/headlines/y2001/ast18jun\\_1.htm](http://science.nasa.gov/headlines/y2001/ast18jun_1.htm).

◆ **Road Construction SR3 to SR405 Ramp** -- Beginning Monday, June 18., VA Paving will begin work to widen the west-bound on-ramp from SR3 to SR405. The ramp area will be under construction between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m. Monday through Friday for approximately 6 weeks. All construction will be on the south side of the ramp and the access lane will be reduced in width. Workers and equipment moving around the site will require extreme care by all vehicle operators, and reduced speeds. More information will be passed on as it becomes available during the construction. Questions or concerns may be addressed to John Henderson, SGS Construction Services, at 867-7119.

◆ **Walk This Weigh** - With this incentive program from the KSC Fitness Centers, you can walk your way to a healthier, more fit, energetic, less stressed version of your current self. This walking and weight management plan sets you on the path to better fitness by encouraging consistent exercise and sensible eating. Through ritual and repetition, the 90-day program will form habits to last the rest of your life. It will also get you in shape for the Intercenter Run/Walk in October. *Walk this Weigh* starts July 2, so call 867-7829 or come by the OSB or O&C Fitness Centers to learn more about this incentive program. Ask for Lauren.

◆ **Did You Know?** Today is the summer solstice, which began at 7:24 a.m. EDT. In the Southern Hemisphere, the only total solar eclipse of 2001 will occur as the Moon's shadow races across southern Africa.★

KSC Countdown is published every Tuesday & Thursday.

Deadlines: 10 a.m. the day before. Send information, comments or questions to:

E-mail - [Anita.Barrett-1@ksc.nasa.gov](mailto:Anita.Barrett-1@ksc.nasa.gov) ◆ Mail Code - IDI-011 ◆ Telephone - 867-2815

Countdown on the Internet -- <http://www-pao.ksc.nasa.gov/kscpao/ksccount/2001/2001.htm>